

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

Appellant(s): David R. Payne, Gerald A. Stangl, Norman E. Stevens, and Michael F. Gard	Group No.: 3671
Serial No.: 10/617,975	Examiner: Raymond W. Addie
Filed: July 12, 2003	Att'y Dkt. No. 2380-561
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY DRILLING AND BACKREAMING A HORIZONTAL BORE UNDERGROUND	Customer No.: 28839
	Confirmation No.: 4897
	Appeal No.: 2009-014218

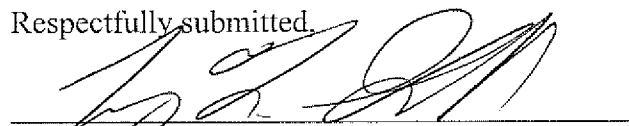
**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

STATUS INQUIRY

More than *three years* have passed since the filing of the Appellant's Brief in the above-referenced application on **December 28, 2007**. The last communication received from the Office since the time of filing the Appellant's Brief is the Docketing Notice mailed August 25, 2009.

Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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